

REMARKS

Claims 1-23 are pending in the application. Claims 1-23 are rejected.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the remarks below distinguishing the Li reference from the elements claimed.

*Li Does Not Disclose or Suggest a Focus Position for Control Objects
and Thus Cannot Anticipate the Claims Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)*

Claims 1-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being clearly anticipated by "Browsing Digital Video" (Li et al.), a paper published in CHI in April 2000.

The Examiner makes the following statement in rejecting claims 1 and 19:

Li discloses displaying a first control object, associated with the displayed first video segment, on the display screen in a focus position simultaneous with the display of a first video segment on the display screen (Figure 1). Li discloses displaying a second control object, associated with a second video segment, adjacent to the focus position and moving the second control object to the focus position, and the first control object out of the focus position, in substantial synchronicity with a transition between the display of the first video segment and the second video segment on the display screen (page 3, Figure 1 and column 1, lines 1-10). [Nov. 12, 2004 OA Paragraph 1 (emphasis added)]

Applicants can find no reference to focus position, no functional equivalent to a focus position, and no step is disclosed in Li of "moving the second control object to the focus position, and the first control object out of the focus position" as asserted in the Examiner's statement above. Instead, Li discloses in Figure 1 a user interface for quickly jumping to certain portions of a video by providing, using a detection algorithm, a plurality of shot boundary frames along a bottom of a browser window. The shot boundary frames are arranged horizontally in a scrolling list of such frames. Figure 1 states that a "user can seek a selected part of video by [scrolling to and then] clicking on [the] shot." The current shot, when clicked is highlighted and the video segment associated with that shot is played in the video display window. By scrolling the frames ahead, the participants could preview and seek to successive plays. (Li page 174, Col. 1)

It is clear from the disclosure in Li, therefore, that there is no focus frame since the video play has no association with the location within the user interface window of the shot boundary associated with it. For Li to teach the limitations found in claims 1 and 19 (and 10), the shot boundary frame associated with a currently playing video would have to be positioned within a certain location within the scrolling list and, as the video segment plays out and the next video segment plays, the shot boundary frame would scroll out of the focus frame (e.g. a fixed position on the browser window within the scrolling list) and the next shot

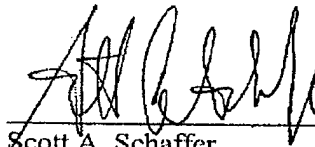
boundary frame move into the focus frame. Li clearly does not show this, however, and thus does not anticipate or suggest limitations set forth within the pending claims. Such functionality would be contrary to the teachings of Li, in fact, since the object of Li is to provide a browsable visual list of shot boundaries. To include a focus frame would not allow the user of the Li user interface to view images beyond the five shown in Figure 1 while playing an earlier occurring video segment. This is clearly not the goal of Li which instead intends to allow a user to browse to images well beyond the current video segment play to anticipate a resolution of such video. "Features that support skimming visually, such as shot boundaries, were more useful here than in previous scenarios." (Li page 174, Col. 1)

As all independent claims of the present application teach the concept of focus frames and objects moving to and from said focus positions in synchronicity with a transition of videos, and Li fails to disclose such a feature, all claims should be allowable over Li.

For the foregoing reasons, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-23 of the application as amended is solicited. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

Respectfully submitted,

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